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SOURCE

Sluzbeni List, 1948.

YUGOSLAV LAW ON PUNISHMENT FOR CRIME

In his address to the People.'s Assembly in 1948 on the law regarding the execution of punishments, Aleksandar Rankovic stated that the purpose of carrying out punishment cannot be different from the purpose of sentencing, as is stated in the General Section of the Criminal Law, which is taken as the legal basis for inflicting punishment ..

The organs of the Ministry of the Interior may inflict the following types of punishment: death, deprivation of liberty plus forced labor, deprivation of liberty, corrective labor, deprivation of citizenship, banishment, deprivation of the right to earn money and hold office in social organizations, and deprivation of the right to circulate in public.

Other types of punishment are inflicted by courts or other state organs, depending on the type of punishment or on the actual jurisdiction of these organs.

The type of punishment is determined by the nature of the offense, as in the case of deprivation of the right to vote.

Other types of punishment for other offenses, such as deprivation of government employment or rights of citizenship, are authorized in special laws.

Juvenile delinquents who are sentenced to deprivation of liberty plus forced labor or simple deprivation of liberty, are confined in special reformatories for juvenile delinquents. Women convicts are kept in protective centers for convicted women.

According to the law, penal institutions are under republic jurisdiction, but the Federal Minister of Internal Affairs has the right to establish federal penal institutions for certain types of criminals. One such institution, the protective center for convicted women, exists at the present time.

The general supervision of penal institutions is carried out by the Federal Minister of Internal Affairs, while direct supervision is carried out by the Minister of Internal Affairs of the People's Republic. Penal institutions are directly supervised by the Administration for Penal Institutions headed by the republic Minister of Internal Affairs, who directly supervises the penal

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institutions in his republic. Prisons are directly supervised by the chief of the Internal Affairs Section of the republic Ministry of Internal Affairs. For large prisons, a superintendent, who is directly responsible to the chief of the Internal Affairs Section, may be appointed.

The internal organization of penal institutions is based on the classification of prisoners into groups according to types of offense, type and length of confinement, and personal characteristics of the prisoners.

The type of offense, the type and length of confinement, and the personal characteristics of the prisoners determine what methods may be applied most effectively for the reformation of prisoners. These factors are considered in carrying out the punishment in such a way that the criminal may return to society as a useful and disciplined citizen who will no longer commit crimes and who will participate in the building of socialism in Yugoslavia.

The chief method of reformation is physical labor. This applies chiefly to those who are sentenced to loss of liberty plus forced labor. This forced labor involves mainly hard physical labor.

Federal industrial and artisan enterprises will be established in penal institutions. Also, technical trade schools and agricultural schools will be established in these penal institutions. In addition to the above schools, general educational schools will be established in reformatories for juvenile delinquents.

Special attention will be placed on cultural and educational activities. For this purpose, libraries will be established, and prisoners will have the opportunity to better themselves technically and culturally. Instruction of prisoners in individual branches of labor will be given according to the prisoners' physical capacity and inclination, and in accordance with the general plan for the technical improvement of manpower.

Prisoners, like other workers, will work 8 hours per day. Working hours may be extended only as a consequence of disciplinary action. Working hours may be prolonged for not more than 2 hours a day and for a period of not more than 30 days.

Prisoners have the right to rest one day a week. Prisoners have the right to receive compensation for work if they meet the designated work norm. One-third of the compensation is put directly at the disposal of the prisoner, and he may spend it while in prison; he may send one-third to his relatives, while the remainder is given him upon his release.

As a further method in the reeducation process, prisoners who surpass the norm or qualify in some specialty will be placed in a special labor group. Such persons will enjoy a more liberal existence in prison, as they will live in special quarters, will be allowed to move about more freely, and will receive better food and lodging.

While serving their sentences, prisoners have the right to communicate with close relatives, such as wife, children, parents, brothers, and sisters. They may accept food packages and receive visitors. During their prison term, prisoners are guaranteed health and accident insurance coverage in case of accidents at work.

The law defines more specifically the principles for carrying out sentences involving corrective labor. According to the law, these sentences are served in labor groups. Only in exceptional cases may such a punishment be carried out on an individual basis.

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The republic Minister of Internal Affairs organizes labor groups for persons sentenced to corrective labor, but such groups may also be organized upon the decision of the Federal Minister of Internal Affairs. Prisoners who are assigned to labor groups will receive compensation as determined by the republic Minister of Internal Affairs, who is directly in charge of the labor group.

The prisoner will receive compensation on condition that he meets the work norm.

Sentences to corrective labor presuppose that prisoners are physically fit and capable of physical work. For that reason, the law permits the postponement of the sentence or its interruption in case the prisoner is unable to do the work.

The republic Minister of Internal Affairs, who gives conditional paroles, may recall a paroled prisoner if the prisoner does not behave according to regulations or if the reasons for paroling the prisoner cease to exist.

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